FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 APRIL 1986

Israel

Addressing the Labor Party national convention, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said Israel "recognizes" the Palestinians "as a Nation," asserting that the only path to resolving the dispute between them is "dialogue," *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported. Peres also announced that Israel would be a willing partner to unconditional peace talks with Syria if and when the latter is prepared to deal with Israel, and he stressed Israel's willingness to discuss arrangements with Syria to prevent "unwanted flare-ups."

In another part of his speech, broadcast by Jerusalem radio, Peres referred to the current government crisis, noting Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i's "unforgivable" conduct and asserting that he "must be removed" from his post. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir viewed Peres' Comments on the finance minister as "very serious," adding that they may "spell the end" of the National Unity Government, the radio reported. Nevertheless, *HA'ARETZ reported that Moda'i, Shamir, and Knesset member* Avraham Shapira have devised a compromise formula if Peres continues to insist upon Moda'i's ouster, which entails Moda'i's agreement to leave the Finance Ministry but to remain a government minister.

Jerusalem radio reported that 10 passengers were injured, 1 seriously, when a Molotov cocktail was thrown at a bus passing through 'Anatot. In another report, the radio noted that a soldier was slightly injured when a "small" bomb exploded in the center of 'Afula.

Egypt-Israel

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, currently in Israel to attend the Labor Party convention, held talks with Israeli Prime Minister Peres which Ghali termed "constructive and positive," Jerusalem radio reported. The radio added that Ghali delivered a verbal message to Peres from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

Egypt

Any claim that the Camp David accords have left Egypt outside the arena of Arab struggle is "inadmissible," the People's Assembly asserted in a statement cited by MENA. The statement, which came in response to statements allegedly made by the Socialist Labor party leader during his visit to Libya, stressed that peace is a "firm strategic option" for Egypt and affirmed that President Mubarak enjoys "full" popular support. On the other hand, Liberal Socialist Party leader Mustafa Kamil Murad announced his party's decision to withdraw support for the Camp David Accords and welcomed the Socialist Labor Party Leader's visit to Libya, according to MENA.

Libya

The Egyptian Socialist Labor Party delegation which recently visited Libya was informed by Libyan Chief of Staff General Abu Bakr Yunis that 56 libyans were killed in the confrontation with the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Gulf of Sidra, the Cairo paper *Al-SHA'B disclosed in a report cited by AFP. Gen Yunis also* told the Egyptians that the 6th Fleet never crossed the "line of death" defined by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Meanwhile, Tripoli radio cited recent explosions in Sweden and Peru as evidence of an "epidemic of violent action" against U.S. interests spreading throughout the world. U.S. accusations of Libyan involvement in the recent West Berlin Bombing were mentioned by the radio, and JANA subsequently cited an FRG official's view that U.S. media allegations of Libyan involvement are "groundless."

Lebanon

The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon blamed "the hand of Syria and its tools" for an 8 April car-bomb explosion in Juniyah that killed 11 people and wounded 100 others. The radio said that such terrorist acts are aimed at pressuring the Christians in an attempt "to achieve what cannot be achieved by other means."

Another car-bomb exploded in Israel's security zone in the south, wounding six Lebanese, including three army of southern Lebanon soldiers, and killing the driver of the car, according to IDF radio. Beirut radio said the Lebanese National Resistance Front was responsible for the "suicide operation," and Damascus radio reported that the "hero" responsible for the attack was a Lebanese member of the Ba'th party.

In other violence, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that over 12 people were killed in the Al-Kharrub town of Bsaba during clashes which erupted 7 April between Sunnis and Druze gunmen from the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP). The PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio maintained that PSP officials managed to contain the "regrettable" incident and cited a warning by PSP leader Walid Junblatt against continuing the feud. Junblatt subsequently left for Damascus to hold talks with the Syrians and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, the radio noted. The PLO Executive Committee denounced Amal's attacks against Palestinian camps in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO Radio, accusing Amal of implementing a "Zionist" plan and stressing the need to confront the attacks with strength and decisiveness.

Iran-Iraq War

In war developments, "heavy" fighting continued in the northern region around Darband-e Khan, according to IRNA, adding that the Iraqi forces suffered over 50 casualties. In a Tehran radio

report, Iran announced that it downed two Iraqi fighters over the southern battlefront.

On the Iraqi side, a military spokesman denied the Iranian claim on the downing of the two Iraqi aircraft, INA reported. An Iraqi military spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio reported that the Iraqi Air Force downed two of four Iranian fighters that attempted to penetrate Iraq's borders in the south. A communique cited by the radio claimed that Iraqi forces were successful in "liberating" all the "important" heights overlooking the Al-Duwayrij River and imposed "full control" over the area. In other action, INA reported that Iraqi naval fire hit a large maritime target off the Iranian coast.

A large French supertanker was "apparently attacked" in the Gulf recently, the Manama *GULF DAILY NEWS* reported, noting that Dubai shipping sources said the ship has been holed but its owners have refused to discuss the cause of the damage.

DRA-Pakistan

The DRA Foreign Affairs Ministry summoned the Pakistani charge and protested an alleged violation of its airspace by two Pakistani fighters, Kabul radio reported. The radio further noted that the Foreign Affairs Ministry "resolutely" rejected a Pakistani claim that DRA forces directed artillery fire on Bahadur, Mohmand Agency, on 30 March.

DRA

Kabul radio reported that the country's security forces carried out successful operations in Khowst va Fereng, in which 120 mujahidin were "crushed" and a large amount of ammunition was seized. On the other hand, Karachi radio cited reports that the mujahidin have succeeded in lifting a siege in Paktia Province after "fierce" fighting resulting in "heavy" casualties on both sides. The radio added that the mujahidin downed three helicopter gunships and hit a MiG aircraft.

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Protest Lodged With Pakistan Over Airspace Violation

LD081719 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The chage d'affaires of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul today at 1630 was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the following points were made to him by the director of the First Political Department:

Two fighter aircraft of the Pakistani Air Force on 30 March 1986, at an altitude of 4000 meters in the region of (Chandergar), coordinate 2606, crossed the border for a distance of 13 km and violated the airspace in the direction of (Uzua), coordinate 2400; Laghar, coordinate 2296; (Kochkan), coordinate 1296; (Peurza), 1406; (Raqem), 1812; Shagah, coordinate 2206; and then returned from the airspace of (Chandergar).

The DRA Government denounces this provocative action of the Pakistani military forces and therefore protests to the Government of Pakistan, asking the military authorities of Pakistan to end such provocative actions which produce no other consequences except to intensify the situation along the borders.

Moreover, the military authorities of Pakistan, in order to disguise its provocative actions against the DRA, has claimed that on 30 March of the current year the DRA Armed Forces directed artillery fire on Bahadur, Mohmand Agency. After fully evaluating this claim, the DRA Government considers it untrue and resolutely rejects it, and demands that the Pakistani authorities end such false claims.

U.S. Stingers 'Hinder' Talks With Pakistan

LD090642 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 9 Apr 86

["Stingers Won't Save Dushmans" — BAKHTAR Headline]

[Text] Kabul, April 8, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: The decision to supply the newest American Stinger rockets to counter-revolutionary Afghan groups in Pakistan was taken by the Reagan administration at a time when the prospects to end the bloodshed emerged in Afghanistan. As a result of the Afghan leaders' new policy towards expanding the social basis of the national-democratic revolution, more and [words indistinct] rebel surrendered themselves to the side of the government. Thousands of refugees have overcome all the obstacles set by the Pakistani authorities and returned to their native country. The Afghan Government invites all Afghans to take an active part in political life for the sake of national reconciliation.

The most respected representatives of various social groups — Moslem clergy, bourgeoisie and intelligentsia have been appointed officials at supreme government bodies. Respect for Islam and tribal customs and traditions is guaranteed, tax privileges are granted to national businessmen and their activities encouraged.

Progress has been made in every field of socio-economic development. The pre-revolutionary indicators in industry and agriculture have long since been surpassed. As a result of the agrarian reform, 327,000 peasant families have already received allotments from the state. The literacy campaign is on the rise as 1.5 million people have learned to read and write after the April Revolution (1978). The latest achievements have made it possible to draw up a five-year plan for the country's socio-economic development which provides for the continued growth of the republic's economic potential and higher living and cultural standard of the population. The plan was recently approved by the Revolutionary Council.

Such a situation did not suit the American administration which is trying to stir up regional conflicts. It (?decided) to directly supply bandits with anti-aircraft Stinger rockets' which in the opinion of American experts will raise the fighting efficiency of dushmans.

THE WASHINGTON TIMES quoted an official from the U.S. Administration who called the new rockets a moral stimulus and a stimulus of prestige. Prestige and ethical principles are not something Dushmans are noted for. They have lately evaded open battles with the Afghan Army and fought with one another over American handouts. A spokesman for the White House does not even notice that by its effort to get prestige to a gang of cutthroats, the United States undermines its own prestige and exposes itself as an accomplice of terrosts who are growing rich off the bloodshed.

The American administration recently declared its readiness to guarantee an agreement between Pakistan and Afghanistan which are conducting indirect talks in Geneva. Such an agreement would provide for an end to armed and other intervention in Afghan affairs. While paying lip service to normalization of the situation around Afghanistan, Washington is doing its utmost to hinder the peaceful solution of the Afghan issue.

Keshtmand To Visit USSR Latter Part of April

LD081506 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1130 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, 19 Hamal, 8 Apr (BAKHTAR) -- Soltan Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, will pay an official visit to the Soviet Union during the second half of April 1986 at the invitation of the USSR Government.

Deputy Prime Minister Criticizes Western News Media

PM081528 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 27 Mar 86 p 12

[Interview with DRA Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Majid Sarboland by Sven-Olov Loov: "Incorrect Picture in Western Media" — date, place not specified]

[Text] In Herat everything is quiet and peaceful. So said DRA deputy Prime Minister Abdul Majid Sarboland, currently visiting Sweden at the invitation of the Workers' Party-Communists. His description does not accord well with that presented in the Western news media, where Herat has been described as a mutilated city that has been blown to pieces.

According to Sarboland it is due to incorrect information that world opinion has turned against his regime. Behind the disinformation there is an unholy alliance, primarily between the United States, China, and some reactionary Arab nations, he claims.

Sarboland has come to Sweden to present the views of the Karmal regime. He conceded that it could be difficult to get the Swedish people to accept his version of what is happening in Afghanistan. "But all struggle is difficult and the truth will win out in the end," Sarboland said, complaining how difficult it is to get correct information published. He took the opportunity of thanking the Workers' Party-Communists for the help the organization has given his government by inviting him.

"Reactionary countries are working against our revolution, the United States in particular. Reactionaries with bases in Pakistan and other countries have started an undeclared war. It is the revolution's duty to defend itself and that is why we have turned to our friends for help."

Sarboland stressed time and time again his government's desire for peace. "We want direct negotiations with Pakistan," he said. But there is no suggestion of negotiating with the guerrillas. "We acknowledge no representatives of the people other than our government and the organizations behind it," he said.

The UN Commission for Human Rights has condemned conditions in Afghanistan. But Sarboland dismissed the criticism. "The commission has been in Pakistan and has never set foot in Afghanistan. It has been affected by daydreams that have been committed to print," was his comment.

The Swedish Government's criticism of his regime is based on information which comes from the counterrevolutionaries, he said.

"Representatives of the so-called guerrillas shuttle back and forth to Sweden and meet with Swedish ministers. Give us the same chance; what we want is 10 minutes with a minister so that we can explain what is happening."

Sarboland described Pakistan as a threat not only to Afghanistan, but also to its other neighbors. He claimed that military advisers from Pakistan, Egypt, the United States, China, and France are assisting the guerrillas in Afghanistan. "Some 2 months ago we arrested two Chinese advisers and handed them over to their embassy in Kabul," he said.

Time after time Sarboland returned to the Western mass media. The claim that Afghanistan has handed over Wocham -- the corridor between the Soviet Union and Pakistan -- to the Soviet Union he dismissed as a completely unfounded claim spread by imperialist propaganda. "We do not allow any other state to lay its hands on a square centimeter of our land," Deputy Prime Minister Sarboland said.

AFP: Phosphorus Bombs Used Against Rebels

BK081155 Hong Kong AFP in English 1135 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Islamabad, April 8 (AFP) — Soviet-Afghan troops battling the anti-Marxist resistance in Afghanistan are using phosphorus bombs against the guerrillas, Western diplomats here charged today.

They said Kabul hospitals had treated people for "phosphorus burns", adding that at least one person caught in phosphorus bombing died in a Kabul hospital last week. They did not identify the area subjected to such bombings.

Meanwhile they reported guerrillas success in Qandahar, Ghazni, and Paktia Provinces, and said rocket attacks had been frequent in the capital, with the American and West German Embassies hit twice during the past week.

The diplomats said last week Moslem rebels staged a daring daylight carbomb incident in front of a Kabul hotel on Sunday, injuring 22 people.

They said the regime had stepped up security with special check posts to search vehicles. In a bid to strengthen forces, reportedly drained by big desertions, youths failing to produce military service exemption cards were being forcibly drafted.

The diplomats also reported seeing "lots of fresh, very young Russian soldiers" in Afghanistan.

Gandhi Comments on Pakistani Nuclear Arms, Sri Lanka

BK081255 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, declared in the Lok Sabha today that if Pakistan gets a nuclear weapon, India will have to think seriously about its own option. Replying to the debate on the demands for grants of the Defense Ministry, he said we have every indication and information that leads us to believe that Pakistan has not given up its nuclear weapons program and it is bent upon having it. He said acquisition of a nuclear weapon by Pakistan will change the entire security environment in the region. Mr Gandhi reiterated India's commitment to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. He said our nuclear program has always been peaceful and we want to maintain it. India does not have a nuclear weapon, nor it is intersted in taking up such a program.

Referring to the supply of sophisticated weapons to Pakistan, the prime minister said that the veil of Afghanistan in this connection has been removed. India has always maintained that these arms could not be used against Afghanistan. The question is, if they are not to be used against Afghanistan, where else they can be used? Mr Gandhi said we have tried to reduce tensions in our region. In this context, he referred to the formation of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

About Sri Lanka, the prime minister said that various defense presences there are a matter of concern for India. He observed that Pakistan and Israel are working hand in hand in Sri Lanka, which is extraordinary.

Further Reportage on Unrest Incidents in Punjab

Terrorists Kill 3 in Gurdaspur

BK081558 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] In Punjab, three persons were killed by terrorists in two separate incidents in Gurdaspur District today. Two persons were killed when some unidentified gunmen fired at them in a village near Gurdaspur this morning. In the second incident, one person was killed when two suspected terrorists fired at him in his house in a village near Batala this afternoon. Briefing newsmen in Jullundur this afternoon, a police spokesman said one of the five terrorists who gunned down six policemen in the city on Saturday [5 Apr] has been arrested.

Measures To Check 'Extremists'

BK090311 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, about a dozen persons were arrested from different places in view of the apprehension of breach of peace. These include the president of the state unite of the All India Sikh Students Federation, Mr Harcharan Singh, who was arrested in Punchh. An official spokesman told All India Radio Jammu correspondent that law and order machinery has been alerted to check entry of any extremists from Punjab.

70 More 'Preventative' Arrests

BK090334 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] In Punjab 70 more preventive arrests have been made since yesterday, raising the total number of such arrests so far to 320. The arrested include activists of the All India Sikh Students Federation and the Akali Dal led by Mr Joginder Singh. Some suspected terrorists and their sympathizers are also among the arrested. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, the arrests have been made as a precautionary measure to prevent any breach of peace in the state. Meanwhile, the situation in all the curfew-bound towns is reported to be under control. In Patiala no untoward incident has been reported since last night. There will be no relaxation in the curfew as a precuationary measure.

Police Chief on Temple Sanctuary

BK080609 Hong Kong AFP in English 1727 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi, April 7 (AFP) — Punjab's new police chief Monday rejected an ultimatum by Sikh militants to free one of their top leaders held recently and warned police would enter Sikh shrines if required. J.F. Ribeiro, director-general of police in the troubled state, said he would not order the release of Mokham Singh, a top militant youth leader arrested recently, as demanded by his supporters and added that police were prepared to face any ultimatum, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported. Mr Ribeiro was talking to reporters at Hoshiarpur in Punjab during a visit there, the news agency said. He took over as new Punjab police chief of March 28 following a spurt in killings by suspected militants.

Mokham Singh, chief spokesman of the Damdami Taksal, a front body of the militants, was held on charges of sedition, earlier media reports said. An ultimatum reportedly given to the police by the militants soon after to free him unconditionally or to face "a fitting reply" expired Monday.

Mr Ribeiro said police would exercise maximum restraint and discretion in entering a religious place but if a criminal took refuge in a place of worship they would not hesitate to enter such a place. The Sikhs view police or other security forces entering their shrines as an act of sacrilege. Mr Ribeiro's statement came amid local media reports that some of the militants wanted by police in certain criminal cases were believed to have taken refuge in the Golden Temple complex, the holiest Sikh shrine located in Amritsar in Punjab.

UK Criticized for 'Indifference' to Sikh Terrorists

BK081407 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Commentary by S.C. Bhatt, political commentator: "Indo-British Relations"]

[Text] The primacy of place which relations with Britain has in India's external affairs once was eroded long ago. The developments in the world and changes in India's environment were

responsible for that to some extent. To a greater extent, the British attitude to India and Britain's decision to think of itself as an European power also played their part. Thus, while a kind of a vague emotional relationship survived, the substance of the old, close relation had been seen to be shrinking over the years. Britain's share in the economic credits and grants to help India grow faster has been declining.

In recent years, a real problem has cropped up, which has strained the relationship. Politely called by the Indian Government as an irritant, the British attitude of indifference to the growing menace of the terrorist and extremist elements among the Sikhs living in that country has baffled Indians, inclined always to think of Britain as a friend. These militants have held violent demonstrations against the Indian High Commission in London and other Indian agencies and offices there and in other major British cities. They have insulted the Indian flag, burned it, and trampled upon it. Some of them even openly boasted of their plot to kill Indian leaders and gloated over the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi. Their propaganda was voiced through the venerable BBC. As if to lend substance to these threats, a respected moderate leader of the Indian community in Britain, Tarsem Singh Toor, was killed by a hired white man believed to be acting for the extremist Sikhs.

All the while, India drew Britain's attention to these extraordinary developments. But London went on pointing out that its laws did not regard some of the activities as illegal. Things have improved lately to an extent, but not so much as to make the recent visit to India of the British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, a resounding success. It was symptomatic of the irritant to use the polite language of diplomacy that these problems were referred to again and again in the talks the British minister had and dominated even his press conference in the Indian capital.

The external affairs minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat, gently told his British guest that what was needed was political will on the UK Government's part to enable it to fight the terrorists sheltering in that country. Britain has allowed even the so-called government of Free Khalistan to operate on its soil. One of its members, the self-styled defense minister, Jaswant Singh Thekedar — a fugitive from Indian justice — has been allotted a semiofficial house. Now Sir Geoffrey Howe told Mr Bali Ram Bhagat that Britain has turned down Thekedar's petition for asylum. Is India supposed to be applauding this action? Britain should consider what Indian reaction would have been had the man been granted asylum.

India also feels that Britain has been dragging its feet over the extradition treaty proposed by India. An Indian draft has been with the British authorities for some time. But now they take the stand that India should not insist on a formal treaty but should become an applicant to them for action under the suppression of terrorism law. It is not unreasonable to conclude that Britain is unable to appreciate the deep concern India feels over the activities of the extremists on her soil. In some British parliamentary and local constituencies, the Indian component of the population, many of them Sikhs, perhaps have a crucial role. And politicians being politicans would loose anything else but not votes.

In Canada, where a similar situation obtained, the government took the Indian warnings of the danger posed by the extremist Sikhs lightly. Only when the Kanishka airliner of Air India exploded in midair last June and it was realized that the tragedy was caused by the activities of two terrorists in Canada and that they had also sought to blow up another passenger plane, then the Canadians saw the menace in its proper form.

Britain has to wake up[to]the time. The terrorists mean business, and India's integrity is threatened by them. India and her people, including the vast majority of Sikhs and the people of Punjab, are determined to fight and defeat their designs. But India expects those who call themselves her friends to recognize the danger that she faces from the extremist threat. Britain has to act, not give promises or excuses.

Further Reportage on Visit of Swiss Foreign Minister

Comments on Talks With Officials

BK031634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Switzerland has offered technical assistance for India's developmental programs. The Swiss foreign minister, Mr Pierre Aubert, made the offer when he called on the industry minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, in New Delhi today.

Later speaking to newsmen, Mr Aubert said that he had wide-ranging international and bilateral talks with Indian leaders. During his discussions with the external affairs minister, Mr Bhagat, there was a reference about the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka and the Tamil refugees in his country. He said when Mr Bhagat voiced India's concern about Switzerland sending back the Tamil refugees, he had explained that there is no mass deportation. He assured Mr Bhagat that no one will be sent back without India's consent.

Commentator on U.S. Port Call to Pakistan

BK041408 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Political commentator Raghunath Raina]

[Text] Some recent developments which underscore Pakistan's growing integration into America's global military system have created widespread disquiet among the people of Pakistan. The utmost resentment was created by the visit of the United States aircraft carrier *Enterprise* to Karachi from 15 to 19 March. The *Enterprise* was escorted by five warships, including a nuclear submarine, which were manned by 4,500 U.S. Marines. [as heard]

Thousands of people throughout Pakistan protested against the U.S. aircraft carrier's visit to that country. The AP reported from Karachi that hundreds of students marched through the streets of the port town to protest against the visit of the aircraft carrier and burned an American flag and an effigy of President Ronald Reagan before riot police broke up the demonstration. The American news agency reported that another student group held

demonstration in which their leaders denounced the United States for supporting the government of President General Ziaul Haq and claimed that Washington had imperialist designs on Pakistan. They also denounced American support for Israel.

What was the purpose of the visit of the U.S. aircraft carrier to Karachi and what was its impact on Pakistan public opinion? It is best to quote from the editorial of the Pakistani daily *THE MUSLIM* of 18 March. The paper wrote: The U.S. Administration and the Pakistan Government too need to be congratulated for having taken on Pakistani pride full square. The Marines have decided to come as guests to a country when anti-American and anti-imperialist sentiments are on the high tide. What compulsions and concessions made the Pakistan act as a reluctant host certainly needs to be explained.

The Pakistani paper was quite indignant about the explanation given by the authorities that the U.S. Marines had come for rest and recreation. This is understandable because rest and recreation is euphemism for wholescale prostitution. The newspaper *THE MUSLIM* remarked: If the Marines are here on the rest and recreation visit, the government should take no pride in having allowed it, especially a government which lays claims to Islamic moorings.

Although the Pakistan Government has been denying that it has provided military bases to the United States, the people in that country are not convinced. In fact a Reagan government spokesman has said that the U.S. Government could ask for bases in Pakistan. Moreover, Pakistan opposition leaders have reiterated that military bases have been built along the Makran coast of Pakistan near Iran. It is in the background that the Pakistani paper *THE MUSLIM* in its editorial observed: Despite the government's persistent protest of not having bartered away our independence or granted bases or other facilities to the U.S., the public has reasons to suspect that there is something more to it than meet the eye.

The Pakistani people's doubts and suspicion got further strengthened when soon after the visit of the *Enterprise* to Karachi, the U.S. Government announced an economic and military aid package of over $4 billion to Pakistan. This aid package has certain significant features. Firstly, it marks a 35 percent increase over the existing package of (?$3) billion. Secondly, unlike the present largess, the new aid is not specifically meant to meet Pakistan's military and economic requirements to face the situation arising out of the Russian presence in Afghanistan. Thirdly, it appears that the aid is being given as an outright grant.

All these factors put together have created great misgivings among the Pakistanis. They feel that the American aid is to strengthen the military rule in the country. They also believe that getting integrated with American military system is against Pakistan's nonaligned policy. They fear that at this rate Pakistan may be pushed out of the Nonaligned Movement and thus get isolated from other developing countries. The Pakistani people's resentment is evident from a spate of recent demonstrations. The rally organized in Rawalpindi by the Movement for Restoration of Democracy on 23 March attracted tens of thousands of people.

TIMES OF INDIA Views New U.S.-Pakistan Arms Deal

BK071016 Bombay TIMES OF INDIA in English 29 Mar 86 p 8

[Editorial: "More Arms for Pakistan"]

[Text] With much greater ease than in the past, the United States has neatly tied up a new package of just over dollars four billion worth of economic and military aid for Pakistan. To see the package through the Reagan administration will have to persuade the U.S. Congress to renew the waiver to Pakistan from the Symington amendment that bars military and economic assistance to countries engaged in a quest for nuclear capability. But no insurmountable difficulty is likely to arise on this score.

The Pakistanis had originally asked for military and economic assistance worth dollars 6.5 billion. Compared with this the package offered may be small. But the more relevant comparison would be with the previous dollars 3.2 billion package over which the present one represents an increase of nearly 35 percent. Even more noteworthy is the sudden abandonment of the U.S. position that its military supplies to Pakistan were related primarily, if not exclusively, to the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan. Of course, this was a mere pose and a ploy even then, if only because no gun fires and no warplane flies in only one direction. In any case, the pretense was torn to shreds when, last year, the Iranians published the documents they had seized from the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. One of these quoted the then Pakistani foreign minister, Mr Agha Shahi, as having told American officials that the F-16's requested for by Pakistan "are to be used against India, not in Afghanistan." This, however, cannot be the reason why Afghanistan finds no mention at all in the joint statement issued in Islamabad on Monday at the conclusion of the four-day visit of Mr William Schneider, the U.S. undersecretary of state for security assistance. Instead the statement stesses the relevance of the U.S. military aid to only Pakistan's "defence modernisation programme". Surely, all this is not unintended. On the contrary, the two sides, equally anxious to ensure that the renewed U.S.-Pakistan military relationship remains an on-going process, are deliberately providing for the contingency of a political settlement of the Afghan issue in the foreseeable future.

Another crucial departure from the previous practice is that future U.S. military supplies to Pakistan will be on "highly concessional terms", no longer on commercial ones. The woeful shortage of foreign exchange in Pakistan has something to do with this change. But the more important cause of it may be the American determination to demonstrate publicly that the U.S.-Pakistan military relationship is a two-way street. It was no mere coincidence that just before the joint announcement, General Ziaul Haq publicly advised the Arab states to recognise Israel and then allowed the visit to Karachi of a formidable flotilla of the U.S. Seventh Fleet. Even more eloquent is Mr George Shultz's description of Pakistan as a "front-line and military access state", like Kenya, Oman, Morocco, South Korea and Thailand. A congressional study has listed Pakistan among "base right" countries — i.e. countries where the U.S. has a right to demand bases.

DRA Protest Over Airspace Violation Rejected

BK0908l4 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Pakistan has rejected the Kabul administration's protest of last Tuesday which alleged that two Pakistan Air Force planes violated Afghan airspace over (Chandergar) area on 30 March.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office in Islamabad this afternoon and was told that Pakistan rejects Kabul's protest.

He was also told to convey to the Kabul authorities the need to refrain from leveling such false allegations.

Karachi Reports on Mujahidin Fighting in Paktia

BK090257 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin have succeeded in breaking the siege of the Zhawar front after having captured the (Manikandao) hills in Paktia Province. Some 900 Soviet-Karmal soldiers pulled back after fierce fighting. Both sides suffered heavy casualties.

During the siege, a commander of the Karmal forces, Captain Abdul Hai, along with 50 soldiers surrendered to the mujahidin.

The mujahidin shot down three helicopter gunships and hit a MiG aircraft.

JASARAT: KHAD Agents 'Pouring' Over Borders

GF081159 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 3 Apr 86 p 6

[Text] Karachi, 2 April (staff reporter) — Abdul Rashid, commander of the Sharang Division of Hezb-e Eslami Afghanistan has stated that 55,000 Soviet soldiers have been killed during the 7-year Afghanistan crusade.

He added that 7,500 tanks and armored cars and 213 fighter aircraft and gunship helicopters have also been destroyed during the same period.

Talking to correspondents here today, he said: So far, more than 1 million Afghan civilians have been killed by the brutal air bombardment and artillery fire of the Soviet forces, most of them were women and children. Approximately 100,000 mujahidin have been martyred during the same period.

The mujahidin control about 90 percent of Afghanistan. Soviet and Karmal forces cannot reach those places, but they avenge themselves by resorting to air bombardment and artillery fire.

At present there are more than 230,000 Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan. They have been supplied with 800 military aircraft, 8,000 tanks, and the most modern arms.

Commander Abdul Rashid strongly rejected the news report that the mujahidin receive arms from the United States, the PRC, and other Western countries. The mujahidin are fighting with arms taken as war booty from the Soviet forces.

The Government of Pakistan's support is limited to looking after the refugees, a policy based on Islamic brotherhood and fraternity. The mujahidin receive no aid from Pakistan.

He further said: KHAD agents are pouring into Pakistan in the garb of refugees. It is difficult to stop them. The Pakistan Government's cooperation is required in this task. They should allow the mujahidin to trace the KHAD agents among the refugees. It is easier for the mujahidin to trace them, rather than Pakistani officials.

In any case, the mujahidin have opened their intelligence offices in the Afghan territory and their job is to capture KHAD agents. However, considering the very long border, it is impossible to control KHAD infiltration completely. This job could only be done with the cooperation of the Pakistan Government and the mujahidin.

Concerning the capital of Afghanistan, Kabul, he said: A curfew has been clamped on Kabul from 1700 to 0600 over the past 5 years, yet the city is still attacked every night.

The mujahidin pay special attention to the Soviet Embassy, the Soviet residential complex, and the Kabul airport.

He concluded by saying that there is only one solution to the Afghanistan issue — the Soviet Union should leave Afghanistan unconditionally and a full Islamic regime should be established there.

Further Reportage on Visit of Swiss Foreign Minister

Feted by Yaqub Khan

BK080418 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan hosted a dinner in honor of Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Aubert in Islamabad last night.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said Switzerland has been helping in Pakistan's economic progress by providing technical and financial assistance through bilateral and multilateral means.

On the Afghan situation, the foreign minister said the Afghan crisis was a result of foreign military intervention and this has completely changed the regional balance of power.

Ever since the creation of the problem, Pakistan's principled stand had been to reject all those efforts which are aimed at determining the final outcome of the internal situation in Afghanistan through the use of force.

The Swiss foreign minister said that both countries have to work together for world peace.

Benazir Bhutto's Arrival "To Test Democracy"
HK080200 Hong Kong AFP in English 0140 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] London, April 8 (AFP) — Benazir Bhutto, leader of the opposition Pakistan People's Party (PPP), said here Monday night that she had decided to go home on Thursday "to test democracy" in Pakistan.

Miss Bhutto, the daughter of former premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, executed in 1979, told a press conference that she had "no fear" for her safety in spite of the possibility she might be interned.

She also said she had received assassination threats.

Miss Bhutto said she would hold a first political rally on Thursday in Lahore and would travel on to other towns to mobilise support for the organisation of "fair and free elections".

She said that since the lifting of martial law by President Ziaul Haq on December 31, "there is an opportunity to restore democracy and this opportunity should be seized in a peaceful way."

3,000 Sikh Indian Pilgrims Arrive in Lahore
BK081530 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] A jatha [group] of 3,000 Sikh pilgrims from India arrived in Lahore today to celebrate the Baisakhi festival at Gurdwara Panja Sahib.

The festival begins from Friday [11 April].

Soon after the arrival, the jatha left for Nankana Sahib on a 2-day pilgrimage.

Bomb Explodes in Tehran 9 April

LD091011 Tehran IRNA in English 1009 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 9, IRNA — A bomb went off around Mohammadiyeh Square, downtown Tehran at about 13:00 hours local time Wednesday afternoon. Early reports said that a number of people were injured in the incident.

6 Casualties Reported

LD091107 Tehran IRNA in English 1055 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 9, IRNA — One pedestrian was killed and five others injured when a bomb went off in Khayyam Ave., near Mohammadiyeh Square in downtown Tehran Wednesday.

According to latest report the area has been cleaned and injured have been taken to hospital.

Four cars were smashed and 22 shops damaged when the bomb, put inside a parked van, exploded at 13:05 hours local time (09:35 GMT).

'Imperialist Governments' Blamed

LD091301 Tehran IRNA in English 1208 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran April 9, IRNA — A 70-year-old man was martyred and 17 others injured in a terrorist bomb explosion in Khayyam Street near Tehran's Bazaar Wednesday.

Pedestrians wounded by the bomb explosion have been hospitalized in Sina Hospital in central Tehran, but six are in a critical state.

Counter-revolutionary groups backed by imperialist governments started their terrorist activities against the Islamic Republic of Iran in 1981.

Among the wounded is a 60-year-old women whose name has not been yet identified.

The last bomb explosion was reported on 17 February in Tehran's Shaheed Fayaz-Bakhsh inter-city bus terminal.

Khamene'i Comments on 'Foreign Intervention'

LD091357 Tehran IRNA in English 1400 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 9, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i Wednesday said the Islamic Republic was prepared to stand against any foreign intervention in the region.

U.S. Vice-President George Bush had said a day earlier that his government would interfere militarily in the Persian Gulf to implement its foreign policy.

But Iran's Khamene'i said "The representatives of arrogant powers who are in the region to encourage regional leaders or cause provocation should know that our nation is and will continue to be prepared." "The inattention and folly of the arrogant powers is so great that they threaten to give advanced military equipment to Iraq, as if the Iraqis were deprived of such weapons until now" he said.

Bush on a tour of Persian Gulf countries has also visited the flagship of the six-warship U.S. fleet anchored off the shores of Bahrain.

The Islamic Republic says it will continue the five-year-old war despite aid given to Baghdad by super powers until Saddam is punished for having started the war.

President Khamene'i, who was speaking in a university student seminar, said the number of para-military volunteers was so large that the government could not promise to send them all to the war fronts. "We promise no one that we will send them to the fronts soon. Their dispatch might take some time" he said.

"In the Ministry of Education some ten thousand people have volunteered while we might be needing only 500 people this month and a thousand the next" the president added. Khamene'i is also the head of the Supreme Defence Council that met Tuesday night in Tehran to review the war effort.

Since Imam Khomeyni spoke last month on the need to increase the war effort, there has been an upsurge in the number of people volunteering to join Iran's Islamic Army.

Reportage on Reinforcements Departing for War Fronts

Musavi Addresses Staff Members

LD091222 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Report on 9 April speech by Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi to staff members of the Prime Minister's Office on their departure to the war zone]

[Text] The Central News Unit has reported that in response to the imam of the ummah's remarks about reinforcing the front along with other sections of the nation, a group of staff members of the Office of the Prime Minister left for the battlefront this morning. They were seen off by members of the Cabinet and Prime Minister Mr Musavi addressed them before their departure.

The prime minister said: Your departure for the front reflects the monumental change that has come about in the country's executive system. This is an honor for a government apparatus which, alongside other combatants, is going to the front to achieve the final victory. The prime minister added: Your response to the imam of the ummah will strengthen our combatants and bring about new hope for victory for right and justice and for oppressed nations.

The prime minister then discussed the U.S. military presence in the region and said: Under the pretext of defending their interests, the United States has now brought their fleet close to the Persian Gulf, hatching plots against us. Thanks to the alertness and readiness of our Islamic ummah, however, all these plots will

be rendered null and void. Today more than ever, the enemy is disappointed and without hope. [chants]

Majlis Speaker Addresses 'Volunteers'

LD091411 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Report on speech by Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akhbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to volunteers leaving for the battlefront on 9 April in Tehran]

[Text] According to a report from the Central News Unit, this morning four divisions, comprising the expert forces of the Khorasan Province training corps, which are being sent to the front for the second time, assembled before the Islamic Majlis. Their departure to the front is part of the ongoing movement of the martyr-nurturing ummah to the battlefronts of the war of justice against injustice. Following remarks from his holiness the imam on the extensive presence of the volunteers on the battlefronts, and after listening to a speech by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative at the Supreme Defense Council and the speaker of the Islamic Majlis, the volunteers left for the fronts.

During the ceremonies, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council said: U.S. Vice President Bush has come to the region under sensitive circumstances to visit our neighboring countries. He arrogantly says that the United States will not permit any interference in the freedom of navigation through international waters and they will not permit Iran's victory in the war or a change in the balance of power. Why is he making such remarks? Does he mean that we had any doubt about these gentlemen's desire to stop us from winning the war? We know much more! We are aware that the United States started this war in order to harm us. Now that it has, to a great extent, been humbled and defeated, it is saying: We shall not permit any shift in the balance of power and we will not Iran to be victorious. The United States was saying 5 years ago: We should use our lackey, Saddam, to defeat the Islamic Republic.

It is amazing to see that these individuals have been testing our nation for 6 years and still they continue to repeat their childish remarks. Were we fighting with your permission, and should we obtain your permission to achieve victory? Would we need to obtain your permission if we were to decide to make the regional waters unsafe? Did we carry out a revolution with your permission? All our efforts and our revolution were carried out in order to free ourselves from such permissions. The aim was to leave the decisionmaking up to the people themselves. We will not even wait for the United Nations reaction. We are telling the United Nations: Perform your duties, or we will do it ourselves. When this is the subject of discussion, I wonder what effect such threats and assurances to the hireling and puppet reactionaries has on our reasoning and morale. Why, instead of such deeds, do the U.S. officials not surrender to justice? Why has the anti-Islamic Ba'th Party, which has committed so many atrocities, as well as its leader, been sacrificing the nation of Iraq? Is it for the sake of warmongering? Why are they making so much trouble for Iran and Iraq and why are they afraid of disrupting the balance of power? The United States is afraid of insecurity but they see that when Imam Khomeyni asks his people to quickly go to the front, the people enthusiastically mobilize. Today we are witnessing an example of this response; today we are seeing a drop from the ocean of volunteers.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani also said: When addressing us, the imam graciously told us to be at the battlefronts. The imam's brief call had a huge response. Today, the problem facing the Islamic Republic of Iran is how to accommodate and calm this never-ending wave of enthusiastic volunteers and how the country can answer so many volunteers.

In another part of his speech the Majlis speaker said: The important issue for us today is to be at the front, and your gathering constitutes a reply to the visit of the statesmen from the arrogant world.

In conclusion, while referring to the atrocities of the region's reactionary states, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Today I, on behalf of all these combatants who represent all of us, once again warn you to surrender to justice while you still have the opportunity. Because if you fail to seize this opportunity, then we will have every right to regain our rights, the rights of Iran and of Iraq, and the rights of Islam. This we will do with the assistance of our warriors.

Students To Depart 'Next Week'

LD081722 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 8, IRNA — The biggest gathering of university students will be held throughout the country Wednesday following Imam Khomeyni's recent call for greater participation of the skilled manpower in war fronts. The central mobilization headquarters of the universities said in an announcement Tuesday that students will be dispatched to the fronts next week. The headquarters said that the first group of university staff and students are to leave for the battlefronts on 14 April, coinciding with the birth anniversary of Hazrate Abol Fazl, son of Imam 'Ali.

4 Divisions of Karbala' Convoys

LD082049 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Four more fresh popular divisions of the fourth Karbala' marchers' convoys, responding to the imam of the ummah, left Khorasan for the battlefronts at noon today to strike further heavy blows against the Zionist-Ba'thist Iraqi regime. A report says the departing divisions, shouting the slogan "War, war until victory!" gathered at the shrine of the eighth imam, peace be upon him, and then left for the fronts of the imposed war.

Volunteers From Provinces

GF090558 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Following the exhortations of the commander in chief of the Armed Forces on the greater, all-round presence of the

people's forces on the battlefronts, thousands of combatants and experts from more than 12 provinces of the country left for the war frontiers over the past few days. They were given a warm sendoff by the various sections of people.

According to correspondents of the Central News Unit and IRNA, during this period, numerous groups of Islamic combatants from the provinces and districts of Bushehr, Mazandaran, (Al-Faw), Yazd, Eastern, Western and (?Central) Azarbayjan, Esfahan, Bakhtaran, Semnan, Hormozgan, and Khorasan left for the battlefronts against the Zionist enemy to join the other Islamic combatants.

Another division of trained Islamic Revolution Guards Corps' mobilization personnel of the Fars Province left from Kazerun for the battlefronts of right versus wrong

French Delegation Arrives for Talks 9 Apr
LD090625 Tehran IRNA in English 0555 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 9, IRNA — A French delegation headed by secretary general of the French Foreign Ministry, Andre Ross, arrived here Wednesday morning to discuss issues related to mutual relations, the Iranian Foreign Ministry announced.

The delegation which also includes director general for Africa and Middle East of the French Foreign Ministry, Marc Bonnefous, will hold talks with the Iranian political and economic officials during its stay in Tehran.

Israeli-Released Lebanese Prisoners Arrive in Tehran
GF070634 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Excerpt] On the eve of prophet's day, and in order to praise the heroic struggles of the Muslim Lebanese mujahidin, 158 Muslim Lebanese combatants, who were freed from 'Atlit Prison, arrived in Tehran last night at the invitation of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The members of this group were freed from the clutches of the occupying regime of Jerusalem following the resistance and struggles of the people and the Muslim Lebanese mujahidin.

They were flown in last night by an aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran Airlines from Damascus.

According to our correspondent, in a welcoming ceremony accorded to this group, our country's deputy foreign minister in charge of political affairs welcomed the Lebanese combatants and greeted them on prophet's day, outlining the immensity of the Islamic revolution in the world.

He said the major cause of defeat of the plots hatched by the United States and the occupying regime of Jerusalem in Lebanon was steadfastness, belief, and the struggles of the Muslim Lebanese mujahidin.

Minister of Culture Returns From Havana Meeting
GF090723 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Mr Farhadi, our country's minister of culture and higher education who led a delegation to Cuba to participate in the second conference of the culture and education ministers of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] and developing countries, returned to Tehran last night. The minister of culture and higher education spoke to our correspondent on the matters discussed at this conference, to which we draw your attention:

[Begin recording][Farhadi] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We request his assistance. This was the second session of the conference of the ministers of culture and education of NAM and developing countries. The first took place in 1983 in North Korea.

The Islamic Republic of Iran's delegation [at the second conference], which consisted of representatives of the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education, Foreign Ministry officials, the head of the Literacy Department, and officials from other (?organizations), participated in this session. We had one general session during which we read our statement. Three other meetings were held in which we participated actively — on culture, on education, and on resolutions.

An important issue we brought up at these session was the need for instruction on international norms — humanitarian, international norms — which should be taught at every level in NAM and in developing countries so that the exploiters and the world oppressors will not be able to use destructive and lethal weapons once the people of the Third World and developing countries have gained the necessary awareness. We also requested establishing a joint cultural and moral front for NAM and developing countries against imperialism.

Another proposal which we presented during the resolutions committee session, which attracted attention and evoked Cuban support, was to support UNESCO and the present secretary-general, Mr Mahtar Ahmad M'Bow. It was included in the resolution, but in view of the opposition of some countries, the name of the present UNESCO director-general was not included in the final resolution.

Another of our recommendations was to condemn of the use of chemical weapons, which was opposed by Iraq. This took up most of the discussions during these sessions on the resolutions. The debates were extensive and continued during the general session because Iraq's opposition effectively excluded mention of the issue in the resolution text. This was due to the fact that the modus operandi of these conferences calls for a unanimous vote, but since Iraq was opposed to it, it had to be referred to the general session. During that session, our delegation defended the proposal commendably and thus Iraq had nothing else to say. In this manner, the nature of the Iraqi regime was exposed before all participants.

A total of 42 delegations participated in the conference, of which 26 ministers had come from 26 different countries; the remaining delegations consisted of deputy ministers. [end recording]

Further on Bush, Murphy Visits to Mideast

LD090922 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush in a speech at the capital of Bahrain, Manama, yesterday announced that if provocations were to expand in the Persian Gulf, the United States would resort to prompt military intervention in the area. Bush did not explain what he meant by provocations in the Persian Gulf. The former CIA chief, while stressing that Washington supports the GCC members, also added: For realization of peace between the Arabs and Israel, the United States has taken some new inititive and Richard Murphy's trip to Tel Aviv is in the same connection.

In other remarks in the capital of Bahrain, Reagan's deputy emphasized his aggressive policy against Libyan sea and land territory. At the same time REUTER reports that yesterday Richard Murphy arrived in occupied Palestine in order to implement the so-called restoration of peace in the Middle East. He stopped in Cairo en route to Tel Aviv.

Anniversary of Severance of Ties With U.S. Noted

GF090905 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Unattributed commentary on the anniversary of the severance of Iran-U.S. ties]

[Excerpts] Six years ago, on this date, the official breakup of ties between Iran and the United States was announced. Even though this break took place some months after the occupation of the U.S. nest of spies in Tehran, it was obvious that many factors had made the break inevitable which date back to the 25-year U.S. imperialist presence in Iran.

One of the most significant factors was the victory of the Islamic revolution and its effects on the U.S. position. The policy, followed during the era when the Democrats were in power during Carter's presidential term, received a severe setback with the advent of the Islamic Revolution. The Carter doctrine, based on the direct U.S. presence in disturbed areas to defend its interests, was eliminated from the scenario.

It was natural for Washington to face dual pressure by the re-adoption of a policy which had been proven inefficacious in Vietnam. This pressure was in the form of the heavy expenditure incurred and public opinion in the United States, as well as its Western allies. This was the beginning of the U.S. anger being directed against Iran. Besides, the toppling of a regime which had received the proud title of an island of peace and stability from the United States proved that support for the harsh and tyrannical dictatorship of imperial Iran could not preserve a reliable foothold for Washington.

What the Reagan administration has frantically pursued over the past few years, i.e. the replacement of dictatorial regimes by guided democratic regimes, has to a certain extent prevented people's revolutions similar to the Islamic revolution of Iran. In addition, the international repercussions of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran on U.S. policy have culminated in certain developments in the region which clash directly with U.S. interests.

The emergence of a new political force among Islamic countries, which is being labeled an Islamic resurgence or fundamentalism in the political circles of oppression due to its aim of inflicting blows on the illegitimate interests of the Western world in these areas, has aroused the constant apprehension of the Islamic countries allied with the United States — especially since the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran — something which the Washington echelons have been made aware of.

For this reason, following the commencement of the imposed war of Iraq against Iran, these countries, spearheaded by the United States, initiated an indirect confrontation with the Iranian revolution under the cover of the Ba'thist Iraqi regime. Their deduction was that this nascent Islamic uprising could only be neutralized and rendered ineffective by applying pressure on the revolution in Iran. The intermittent economic embargoes and persistent obstructionism to inflict blows on Iran's foreign exchange were propaganda plots and a conglomeration of certain measures in the area similar to the nexus of events in this scenario being witnessed today by the Gulf littoral states. The scenario is one of resistance to the Islamic revolution.

The trip by George Bush, the U.S. vice president, and of Richard Murphy, the assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, to the Persian Gulf countries — which began a few days ago and still continues — is the latest act of this vast scenario. This is an attempt to force the Islamic Republic to compromise on the matter of the imposed war and pave the way for greater cooperation between Iran and world imperialism, especially the United States.

What has been spelled out by Islamic Iran's officials, and the leader of the revolution in particular, is that the Iranian revolution will never give permission to resume ties between the tyrant and the tyrannized to any superpower and has thus dashed these futile hopes of world imperialism. The superpowers do not recognize any other form of relations, as they have proven by the experiences of the past few centuries.

The Islamic revolution of Iran in practice has also proven that it will never hesitate to resist the United States and will never falter in its relentless struggle against world oppression but remain the greatest source of danger to the interests of oppression of the great powers.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Abadan, Khorramshahr Shelled

GF081409 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report the mercenaries of the Zionist regime in Iraq, in continuation of their crimes, once again shelled the resisting cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr during the past 24 hours. The shelling was sporadic. As a result, several houses in Abadan were damaged.

Communique No 2,433

LD081619 Tehran IRNA in English 1602 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 8, IRNA — Over 10 Iraqi gun implacements and munitions depots were destroyed and 30 Iraqis were killed or wounded when Iranian artillery fire scored direct hits on their positions in western fronts according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Tuesday.

The communique Number 2433 says that the artillery fire of the Muslim combatants silenced Iraqi fire in northwestern fronts over the past 24 hours destroying their positions and inflicting casualties on them. Iranian combatants stationed in Sharhani operational region defended strategically important areas as well as their positions preventing Iraqi tactical activities, the command says.

In southern areas especially in Eynkhosh region, the Iranian combatants repelled all futile attacks on the Iraqi enemy, according to the communique.

Elsewhere the command says movements of Iraqi vehicles including tank carriers backed by air support, as well as their replacement of engineering equipment in Yebis, Kuh-e Gach, Nahr-Anbar, Shahrake 60 [as received] and Aharhani were checked by the Muslim combatants of Iran. All enemy counter assaults and defense measures were also severely restricted. Exchange of fire in Khorramshahr region resulted in slight property damage there, the command says.

2 More Iraqi Fighters Shot Down

LD081655 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] The Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the joint operations center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, reports that in continuation of the victories of the army of monotheism two intruding Iraqi fighters were shot down in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater today, thanks to the alertness of the anti-aircraft defense units and tactical measures by fighter aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force. This brings the number of the aircraft of the defeated enemy shot down since the proud "Val-Fajr-8" offensive to 75.

52 Iraqi Casualties

LD081748 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, Bakhtaran Prov., April 8, IRNA — Heavy fighting between Muslim Combatants of Iran and Iraqi forces is still raging in Darband-e Khan Region with Iranian Muslim forces already inflicting at least 52 casualties upon the Iraqi troops over past 24 hours.

Air Force Inflicts 'Heavy Losses'

LD091100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced: The pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran at 1602 yesterday, 8 April, carried out a bombing raid on the Iraqi Ba'thist forces' positions and troop concentrations in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater. After inflicting substantial losses and casualties on the enemy, they returned safely to their bases.

In addition, at 0615 today, the pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, using several of their fighter-bombers, carried out an effective bombing raid, despite bad weather conditions, on enemy logistical areas, troop concentrations and positions in the Sharhani operational theater with the geographical coordinates 32.22 north and 47.25 east. After inflicting heavy losses and casualties on Iraqi forces, they returned safely to their bases.